

# **REMARKS**

Claims 1-7, 9-15, 17-23, 25 and 28-33 are pending in the present application.

Claim 28 is allowed.

Claims 1, 10 and 18 are amended to recite that the binder is polyvinylalcohol, a vinylalcohol copolymer or modified polyvinyl alcohol. Support for the amendment is provided on page 15, lines 1-3 and dependent claims. No new matter is added.

Claim 29 has been amended to excise specific compounds.

Claims 8, 16 and 24 have been cancelled.

Claims 9, 17 and 25 have been amended to depend from pending claims.

Claims 1-7 and 9-11 are under examination. Claims 12-15, 17-23 and 29-33 are currently withdrawn pending completion of examination of the elected species. Upon allowance of the elected species the withdrawn claims will be reentered.

The claims are believed to be allowable for the reasons set forth herein. Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Satou et al. (6,808,768) in view of Avar (4,730,018).

Claim 8 is cancelled and all rejections directed thereto are moot.

Saitou et al. is cited as disclosing porous inorganic particles that can be silica, alumina or other metal compounds and at least one ink absorbing layer containing the disclosed particles. The listed binders include polyvinyl alcohol, polyamide, polyester, styrene butadiene and others. Hindered amine light stabilizers are listed as an optional additive with ultraviolet absorbers, an oxygen quencher or an antioxidant.

Avar is cited as disclosing hindered amine light stabilizers. It is the position of the Office that incorporating the light stabilizer of Avar into the formulation of Sautou et al. would be an obvious combination. Applicants disagree based on the clear teachings which are contrary to such a hindsight combination.

At col. 8, lines 34-50 Avar clearly recites the list of "Suitable polymeric metaterials [sic]" for use with the light stabilizer. This exhaustive list clearly defines a very large set of polymers including most of the standard polymers yet it

does not include polyvinylalcohols. One of skill in the art would clearly expect the light stabilizer to be non-compatible, or otherwise not suitable for use, with polyvinylalcohol derivatives. The Office has ignored this and assumed, contrary to this clear teaching, that polyvinyl alcohol would be included within the list of usable materials.

Satou et al. recites alternate radiation absorbing materials including ultraviolet absorbers and hindered amine light stabilizers. One of skill in the art of Satou et al. and Avar would possibly consider the hindered amine light stabilizers for polyesters, polyamides and styrene/butadiene but they would be led to a different light stabilizer, likely ultraviolet absorbers, for polyvinylalcohols.

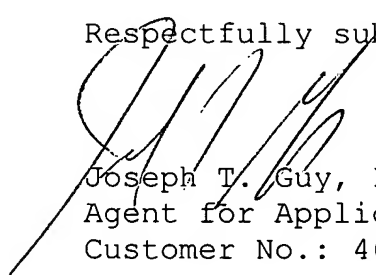
It is only in hindsight based on the present application that Satou et al. and Avar would be combined in a manner which is contrary to their combined teachings.

The rejection of claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Satou et al. (6,808,768) in view of Avar is improperly based on a hindsight reconstruction motivated only by the present application in spite of the contrary teachings of the cited references. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn and that the remaining claims be examined.

### CONCLUSIONS

Claims 1-7, 9-15, 17-23, 25 and 28-33 are pending in the present application. All claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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